

Franklin Co  
Old Ben #9  
Old Ben Coal Co

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## Gob coal cleaning firm to reclaim Old Ben No. 9

SHELBYVILLE, Ill. (UPI) — The president of a firm that manufactures gob coal cleaning units says the firm has exercised an option to buy the 374-acre site of the former Old Ben No. 9 mine at the east edge of West Frankfort and will reclaim several million tons of gob coal at the site.

Sam Kennedy, president of S. F. Kennedy Industries, Inc., and Energy Klenzing Systems, Inc., said work on reclaiming the gob should start before the end of the year and require about three years. When the reclamation work is completed, Kennedy said, plans call for making the site into an industrial park.

Kennedy said the first of the cleaning units, 40 feet high, 12 feet wide and 24 feet long, was assembled last week and will be shipped to Royalton, Ky., next week to clean strip mined coal.

"There's gobs of gob at the Old Ben 9 site at West Frankfort," said Kennedy and added that the firm is looking over several gob sites around the country.

He said the firm has bought the coal cleaning unit patent rights in the United States from Bill Patch, Welch, Okla., and expects to produce 20 of them in the next 18 months.

He said the units will be leased to coal mines or in some cases Energy Klenzing Systems, Inc., will buy gob piles, reclaim the coal and sell it. Each unit is capable of cleaning 100 to 150 tons of coal an hour, Kennedy said.

Kennedy said the entire output from the Old Ben 9 site will be sold to United Coal Sales, Minneapolis, Minn., for resale to utilities. He said

United Coal Sales also owns United Barge Lines.

One gob pile at the Old Ben 9 site is 2,200 feet long, 60 to 70 feet high and 500 feet wide; while the other is 1,100 feet long, 70 feet high and 800 to 900 feet wide.

As the site is cleared of the gob, some 30 acres of tillable soil will be spread over the site in converting it to an industrial park. Kennedy said

there is room for an airstrip at the site.

Kennedy said Energy Klenzing Systems, Inc. has five stockholders including himself: Alexander Hutchings, Nashville, Ill., geologist; L. G. Kays, St. Louis stock broker; Ed Bryanb, San Clemente, Calif., electronics designer and engineer; and Tom Box, a member of a Los Angeles investment company.

cc memo - Kennedy ✓